DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 418 709 IR 057 006

TITLE	South Carolina Connects through Libraries: Five Year Plan, FY 1997 - FY 2002 under the Library Services and Technology Act (P.L. 104-208).
INSTITUTION	South Carolina State Library, Columbia.
PUB DATE	1998-00-00
NOTE	24p.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Access to Information; *Information Services; Information Technology; Library Development; Library Planning; *Library Services; Program Development; State Aid; State Libraries; *State Programs; Training
IDENTIFIERS	*South Carolina; *Technology Plans

ABSTRACT

This Library Services and Technology Act Five Year Plan was prepared in compliance with Section 224 State Plans of the Library Services and Technology Act (Public Law 104-208). The goal of this plan is to assist South Carolina libraries in providing a high level of information services to all South Carolinians, regardless of the type of library they use. The report begins with a discussion of the purpose and uses of the Library Services and Technology Act, and a profile of South Carolina's library needs. Pie charts follow, showing the state's population by different categories. The libraries of South Carolina are then described (The South Carolina State Library, public libraries, academic libraries, school library media centers, and special libraries). The Library Services and Technology Act goals are then outlined. These goals are: (1) to provide all South Carolina citizens with access to a wide variety of information; (2) to assist public libraries in developing programs and services to meet the needs of their patrons; and (3) to improve library services to all South Carolinians through training of library personnel and to provide for better informed public library trustees and supporters. Goals for evaluation of the Library Services and Technology Act program and administration of the act are also included. (AEF)

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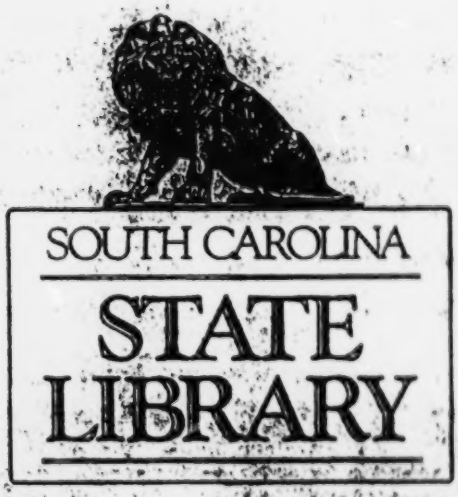
SOUTH CAROLINA CONNECTS THROUGH LIBRARIES

Five Year Plan
FY 1997 - FY 2002

under the

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT
(P.L. 104-208)



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Five Year Plan
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Date of Publication 1998

Publication of this document was partially funded under the Library Services and Technology Act (Public Law 104-208) administered by the South Carolina State Library.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONNECTS THROUGH LIBRARIES

INTRODUCTION

The passage of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) provides the South Carolina State Library a unique opportunity to create a federal library program which meets the library and informational needs of all South Carolinians. With its emphasis on linking libraries, establishing consortia, and providing access to information through electronic networks, the Library Services and Technology Act will bring the library community together for a common purpose. While it is recognized that electronic access to information is crucial to a well-informed society, the Library Services and Technology Act also provides a means of assisting groups with special needs which may prevent their being full participants in the electronic library of tomorrow.

The South Carolina State Library has prepared this Library Services and Technology Act Five Year Plan in compliance with Section 224 State Plans of the Library Services and Technology Act. The goal of this plan is to assist South Carolina libraries in providing a high level of information services to all South Carolinians, regardless of the type of library they use.

PURPOSE

It is the purpose of the Library Services and Technology Act to:

(1) consolidate federal library service programs;
(2) stimulate excellence and promote access to learning and information resources in all types of libraries for individuals of all ages;
(3) promote library services that provide all users access to information through state, regional, national and international electronic networks;
(4) provide linkages among and between libraries; and
(5) promote targeted library services to people of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to individuals with disabilities, and to people with limited functional literacy or information skills.

USES

Of the funds made available to it under the Library Services and Technology Act, the South Carolina State Library shall expend, either directly or through subgrants or cooperative agreements, funds for:

(1)
(A) establishing or enhancing electronic linkages among or between libraries;
(B) electronically linking libraries with educational, social, or information services;
(C) assisting libraries in accessing information through electronic networks;
(D) encouraging libraries in different areas, and encouraging different types of libraries, to establish consortia and share resources; or
(E) paying costs for libraries to acquire or share computer systems and telecommunications technologies; and

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(2) targeting library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line.

The South Carolina State Library will apportion available Library Services and Technology Act funds between the two uses described above to meet the library and informational needs of the people of South Carolina.

This five year plan was developed by staff of the South Carolina State Library with input from public librarians, public library trustees, academic librarians, the South Carolina State Library Board, the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) Advisory Council, the State Department of Education's Library-Media Consultant, and other interested individuals, including state legislative staff. The South Carolina State Library maintains ongoing communications with the state's library community. In 1993 it conducted a series of focus groups with public library directors to receive input on public library needs that could be met by the State Library. In fact, this Library Services and Technology Act document is based in large part on the input received in those focus groups and subsequent conversations with public library directors. The State Library annually attends one board meeting in each county library to receive input from board members. The State Library provides assistance to local libraries by facilitating focus groups, conducting board training, and leading planning sessions. All of these activities serve as means to receive citizen input on library needs. Many of these activities include user surveys which are shared with the State Library. Participants include a cross-section of the local community. The State Library coordinates the activities of a statewide Friends of Libraries organization where library needs are discussed. All of these activities provide opportunities for citizens to express their concerns about library services in South Carolina, and to make recommendations to address their information needs.

The Library Directors Forum of the Higher Education Commission presents another opportunity for discussion of the state's library needs. This organization began an initiative to provide online access to databases for the state's academic libraries several years ago, but were not able to receive funding. The database project envisioned in this plan expands their project to include public libraries in year one and K-12 schools in subsequent years.

The State Library Board and the LSCA Advisory Committee have also discussed at length the library needs of South Carolinians. Input on the needs of school library-media centers has been received from the Department of Education's library-media consultant, as well as from a member of the State Library Board who is an assistant principal and a former school library-media specialist. The State Library was on the program of the Spring 1997 Conference of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians to discuss Library Services and Technology Act plans and receive input from their membership.

Periodically, surveys are mailed to the state's libraries to gauge existing conditions and elicit comments on needs.

The information gained from all of the above activities has been used in the development of this five year plan under the Library Services and Technology Act. These groups will also provide valuable data for evaluating the services provided under the plan.

South Carolina's five year plan under the Library Services and Technology Act will be distributed to public libraries and others upon request. A recorded version will be made available through the State Library's Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The plan will also be accessible electronically from the State Library's Home Page.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S LIBRARY NEEDS

Library users need access to a wide variety of informational sources, especially those in electronic format. Less than 50% of South Carolina's public library sites have access to electronic information services. Only 22% of South Carolina's public library systems offer access to a comprehensive, full-text general periodical database. Only 12% offer such access beyond a single stand alone workstation. Only 33% of academic libraries have access to comprehensive, full-text databases, with less than 15% having campus-wide access. While most K-12 schools have limited access to basic electronic sources (primarily CD-ROM), none have access to comprehensive full-text databases.

All citizens of South Carolina need access to a public library that is connected to the Internet and that has automated its database. According to a November 1996 survey conducted by the South Carolina State Library, 60% of South Carolina's public library systems provide Internet access (32% for staff only and 28% offer patron access). 18% of public libraries reported no immediate plans to provide Internet access. Library patrons in15% of South Carolina's counties use a public library that is not automated. Many public libraries need to upgrade their automated systems.

All South Carolinians need access to quality public library service. South Carolina has 184 pubic library sites and 35 bookmobiles. Currently, 47% of the total population are registered public library users (23% whom are children). 49% of children under age 14 have a public library card. 19.8% of those eligible for blind and physically handicapped services use them. South Carolina ranks 36th (2.87) out of 42 (4.06) reporting states in number of visits per capita, 46th in circulation transactions per capita and 49th in books per capita.

Library users need access to a wide variety of informational sources, which are often not available in their library. Resource sharing programs, such as interlibrary loan, provide a source for this information. All public and academic libraries are active interlibrary loan participants using the services of the State Library. Only 10% of South Carolina's public high school libraries use this service. If everyone is to have the information they need, all libraries need to participate in the State Library's interlibrary loan program.

In order for South Carolina's libraries to meet the information needs of her citizens, library staffs need access to a wide variety of continuing educational opportunities. The introduction of new technologies into all South Carolina's libraries creates a need in this area, as well as the continuing need for training in general library applications and management techniques. A high staff turnover rate creates a continuous need for ongoing taining in all areas. Training for public library trustees is needed to make their period of service as productive and rewarding as possible.

All libraries in South Carolina face the problem of deteriorating collections. These libraries need access to information on preserving their collections and preventing further deterioration.

A statewide library marketing program is needed to ensure that decision makers and the library public know what library programs and services are available to them.

TRANSITION FROM LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT TO LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT

Library Services and Construction Act Title I and Title III subgrant projects funded with FY97 funding which have not been closed out by September 30, 1997, may be extended into FY98 under the original terms of the grant. Any subgrant funds remaining after close out of these subgrants as of September 30, 1997, will be available for expenditure for Library Services and Construction Act or Library Services and Technology Act purposes in FY98. Any other Library Services and Construction Act funds available after September 30, 1997 may be used for either Library Services and Construction Act or Library Services and Technology Act purposes. Library Services and Construction Act Title II funds unobligated as of September 30, 1997 will remain available until expended for Library Services and Construction Act Title II purposes.

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT SUBGRANTS

The South Carolina State Library may fund subgrant projects under the Library Services and Technology Act. Eligibility for each subgrant funded will be determined on a case by case basis depending on the purpose of the grant. Overall, the following libraries/organizations will be considered eligible for grant funding:

South Carolina State Library
Legally established County and Regional Public Libraries
Academic Libraries
School (K-12) Library Media Centers
State Institutional Libraries
Special Libraries
Professional Library Associations/Organizations
Non-profit organizations which support/complement the goals of libraries
Governmental organizations which support/complement the goals of libraries
Museums

THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

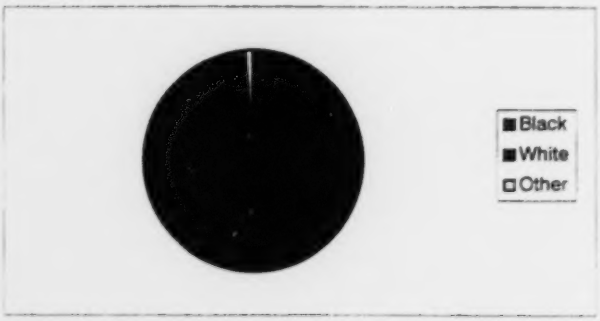
South Carolina is experiencing a steady population growth. The 1990 census reflected an 11.6% increase over 1980. The July 1, 1995, estimate shows a 5.4% growth rate over the last five years, on target to match the growth rate of the 1980's.

The people of South Carolina have a wide variety of library and information needs. It is the challenge of the library community to develop programs and services to fulfill the informational needs of all South Carolinians. The South Carolina State Library plans to use Library Services and Technology Act funds to enable South Carolina libraries to meet this challenge.

The following charts show South Carolina's population by different categories. Libraries need to ensure that the programs and services they develop will address the particular needs of all of these groups.

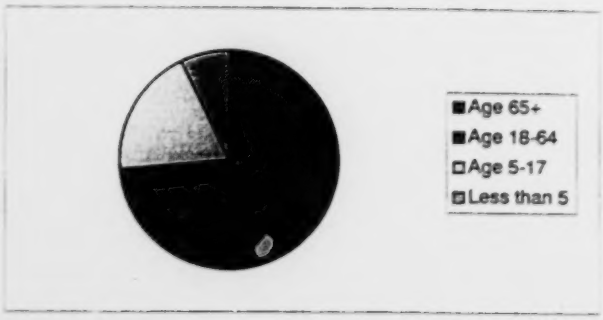
POPULATION BY RACE

Black	1,039,884	29.8%
White	2,406,974	69.0%
Other	39,845	1.2%
Total	3,486,703	



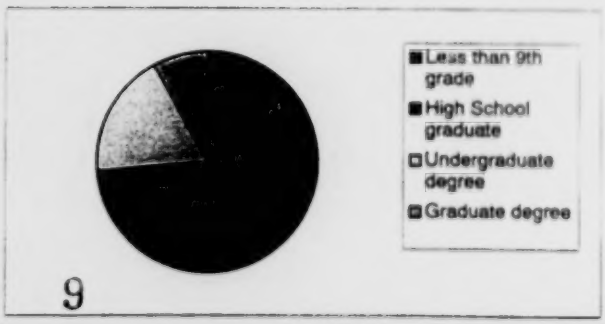
POPULATION BY AGE

Age 65+	396,935	11.4%
Age 18-64	2,169,561	62.2%
Age 5-17	663,870	19.0%
Less than 5	256,337	7.4%



EDUCATION PERSONS 18 YRS. & OVER

Less than 9th grade	303,694
High School graduate	776,053
Undergraduate degree	267,365
Graduate degree	118,811



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Other significant indicators include:

...48,813 people are eligible for library services for the blind and physically handicapped
...303,694 people are functionally illiterate (18 years old with less than 9th grade education)
...20,892 people live in state institutions
...48.2% of K-12 students receive free or reduced price lunches
...935,575 families live below poverty line (12%)
...21% of all children and youth live in poverty

THE LIBRARIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The South Carolina State Library

The South Carolina State Library is uniquely positioned to administer federal Library Services and Technology Act funds. It is the only agency in state government charged with the responsibility for statewide library development and resource sharing (S.C. Code 1976, Title 60, Chapter I). It meets the requirements listed in Sec. 213 (5) of the Library Services and Technology Act as a State Library Administrative Agency.

The South Carolina State Library's mission is to improve library services throughout the state and to ensure all citizens access to libraries and information resources adequate to meet their needs. The State Library supports libraries in meeting the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of the people of South Carolina.

Public Libraries

South Carolina county governments are required to establish countywide public library systems (S.C. Code 1976, 4-9-35). South Carolina has 39 county or regional library systems serving all 46 counties. Four regional library systems serve eleven counties. These systems operate 46 county headquarters libraries and 141 branch libraries. They also operate 35 bookmobiles. In FY96, these libraries had 1,621,985 registered borrowers (46.52% of the population). There is one municipal public library in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina (Horry County), which is not affiliated with a county library system.

The South Carolina State Library Board has adopted the following vision of public library service:

> "The people of South Carolina depend on public libraries as an essential community resource. Libraries offer a variety of materials and services for information, enjoyment, and independent learning. Building on a heritage of serving all, regardless of means or ability, public libraries will continue to guarantee South Carolinians access to information needed to meet the challenges of the 21st Century."

Public libraries in FY96 expended $44,604,151 in local funds (84.4%), $4,371,030 in state funds (8.3%), $321,874 in federal funds (0.6%), and $3,553,508 in other funds (6.7%). Efforts to increase State Aid to County Libraries by the Association of Public Library Administrators to $2.00 per capita with a minimum grant of $50,000 per county will continue during the five year period of this plan. The emphasis for this request is on library service to children and utilizing new technologies to provide library service to all South Carolinians.

PUBLIC LIBRARY REVENUE

Local	84.4%
State	8.3%
Other	6.7%
Federal	0.6%

In FY96, public libraries had a total of 7,186,439 books, or 1.96 books per capita.

Academic Libraries

South Carolina has 33 publicly supported and 26 privately supported institutions of higher education. In FY96, these schools enrolled 175,829 full time students.

In FY96, academic libraries had a total of 9,154,121 volumes, 2,101,343 government documents, 11,323,513 microforms, and 309,806 audio-visual titles.

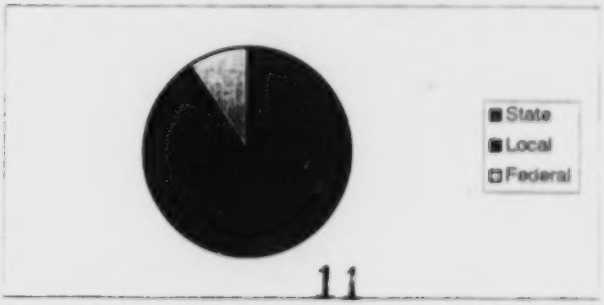
School Library Media Centers

South Carolina has 1,095 public schools (K-12), all of which have a library media center. In FY96, public schools enrolled 651,422 students. There are also 352 private schools. The number of library media centers in private schools is unknown. In FY96, private schools enrolled 41,981 students.

The state Department of Education no longer collects data on the number of books held in library media centers; however, state standards require ten books per student. Therefore, it can be assumed that public school library media centers have at least 6.5 million titles available for their students.

PUBLIC SCHOOL REVENUE

State	46.6%
Local	44.0%
Federal	9.4%



Special Libraries

The exact number of special libraries in South Carolina is unknown. The South Carolina Chapter, Special Libraries Association has over 100 personal members.

South Carolina's libraries will benefit from programs conducted under the Library Services and Technology Act. The emphasis on resource sharing in this legislation will improve existing cooperative efforts and create new alliances.

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT GOALS

The South Carolina State Library has established four general programmatic goals and one administrative goal to carry out its responsibilities under the Library Services and Technology Act. These goals, funding priorities, suggested activities, procedures, and evaluation methodology follow:

GOAL I. To provide all South Carolina citizens with access to a wide variety of information.

Activities.

Activities under this goal will:

a) establish or enhance electronic linkages among or between libraries,
b) link libraries electronically with educational, social or information services,
c) assist libraries in accessing information through electronic networks,
d) encourage libraries in different areas, and encourage different types of libraries to establish consortia and share resources
e) assist libraries with preservation activities
f) provide a statewide library marketing program

Activity 1.

To provide statewide online database access to all South Carolina citizens.

Libraries of all types are eligible for services under this activity during the five year period of this plan. The South Carolina State Library will serve as the contract administrator for DISCUS, a statewide database access project. Initially South Carolina's 39 county and regional public library systems and academic libraries will participate. During the five year period of this plan it is expected that K-12 school library media centers will also participate. Other appropriate members may be identified. Significant Library Services and Technology Act funding will be used for this statewide project.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library, working with the Association of Public Library Administrators and the South Carolina Commission of Higher Education's Library Directors Forum, will establish a management structure for this project. An interinstitutional committee will identify a core list of full text and bibliographic databases suitable for use by public and academic library patrons. The South Carolina State Library will develop and issue

a Request for Proposal and will negotiate a contract with vendor(s). These planning activities will proceed prior to October 1, 1997 so the project can begin with the new federal fiscal year.

Year 2 (FY99). Continue the database access project initiated in Year 1 (FY98). Develop preliminary plans to include K-12 school library media centers. Evaluate database use. Little used databases might be dropped. Depending on funding levels, consider additional databases.

Year 3 (FY00). Continue Year 2 (FY99) activities. Develop budget for inclusion of K-12 schools. State Library and participants will begin to develop justification for state funding for project.

Year 4 (FY01). Continue Year 3 (FY00) activities. Add K-12 school library media centers to project.

Year 5 (FY02). Continue Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

Identify libraries eligible for this project. The South Carolina State Library will chair a Database Management Board composed of four public library and four academic library representatives. Select databases. Issue Request for Proposal to database vendors. Negotiate contract(s). Based upon annual reviews of database usage, modify selection of databases to reflect current needs.

Evaluation.

An annual analysis of the value of this activity will include:

a) participants' assessment of the overall usefulness of this activity for their patrons
b) the number of libraries by type which participated
c) an analysis of database use

Activity 2.

To provide a statewide interlibrary loan program.

Libraries of all types are eligible for services under this activity during the five year period of this plan. The South Carolina State Library will provide citizen access to information by operating a statewide interlibrary loan program using its collections. Library Services and Technology Act funds will supplement state funds for the development of these collections. Library Services and Technology Act funds will supplement state funding for the operation of this service. Presently, only 10% of publicly supported high schools have access. Full participation of high schools will be contingent on the South Carolina State Library receiving additional state funding for this purpose. The South Carolina State Library has requested such funding for state fiscal year 1998.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library will make available to the people of South Carolina a wide variety of information on interlibrary loan through their local library. Federal funds will supplement the State Library's materials budget. Increased use of this service might require additional federal funding to supplement state operating funds for interlibrary loan. If the South Carolina General Assembly approves funding for 100% participation by high schools, efforts to extend this service to as many of these schools as possible this school year will begin.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities of Year 1 (FY98) will continue. If high school access funding was not provided in FY98, efforts will continue to receive this funding in FY99. If high school access funding was provided in FY98, efforts will continue to involve any high school(s) that did not participate in FY98.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities of previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities of previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will operate and promote a centralized interlibrary loan service available to all citizens of South Carolina. The State Library's materials selection team will evaluate its collections and add appropriate new materials. The South Carolina State Library will arrange and/or provide for training of local staff in the use of this service.

Evaluation.

The South Carolina State Library will collect and analyze use data (number of libraries participating, number of transactions, etc.) annually. Participating libraries will evaluate this program in terms of meeting the informational needs of their patrons. An analysis of the materials loaned and the materials not available will be used to further develop the State Library's materials collections.

Activity 3.

To encourage the preservation of South Carolina's library collections to ensure their availability for resource sharing purposes.

Libraries of all types are eligible for services under this activity during the five year period of this plan. The South Carolina State Library will provide Library Services and Technology Act funding to encourage the preservation of library collections in South Carolina, as well as providing preservation education programs for the general public.

Year 1 (FY98). South Carolina's libraries, archives, and museums face the problem of disintegrating collections. The South Carolina State Library will provide preservation education and preservation services in cooperation with the Charleston County Library, the Palmetto Archives, Libraries, and Museums Council on Preservation (PALMCOP), and other appropriate organizations. Expertise of these organizations will evaluate local collections and provide workshop experiences on preservation of library and museum collections. The South Carolina State Library will facilitate the development of preservation and promotional materials.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities of previous year are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities of previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities of previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will identify preservation needs of South Carolina's libraries and make grants to the Charleston County Library and the Palmetto Archives, Libraries, Museums Council on Preservation (PALMCOP), which are uniquely prepared to provide preservation education and other services. The State Library will work with them and other appropriate agencies to foster an understanding and appreciation in the state for preservation. Grant funding may also be made available for the preservation of library collections in South Carolina.

Evaluation.

Agencies and organizations receiving funding under the Library Services and Technology Act are required to provide an annual report of their preservation activities. The State Library will use these reports and reports from recipients of preservation services to formally evaluate South Carolina's library preservation program.

Activity 4.

To provide a statewide library marketing program consistent with the purposes of Library Services and Technology Act.

The South Carolina State Library is eligible for funding under this activity during the five year period of this plan. Other types of libraries may receive sub-grants during this period.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library will develop an annual Public Relations Plan. During the five year period of this plan, the South Carolina State Library will develop publicity designed to inform the public about existing library services, promote a climate of public opinion favorable to library development, and promote specific programs and services, especially those supported by the Library Services and Technology Act. Support will be available to local libraries to assist them with promotion of their services. A key component of this activity is a marketing program called SConnects@the Library.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities funded in Year 1 (FY98) are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities funded in previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities funded in previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will directly administer this activity. It will develop publicity which promotes library service statewide. It will also provide promotional assistance to other libraries subject to the availability of resources.

Evaluation.

This activity is difficult to evaluate. Objectively, the evaluation is on the number of news releases issued, the number of times they are used and by which media outlet, and the number of times libraries request assistance from the South Carolina State Library. Subjectively, it is also evaluated by the public's general understanding of the role of libraries in today's society. Increased use of libraries and increased funding for libraries are indicators that might suggest the success of this activity.

GOAL II. To assist public libraries develop programs and services to meet the needs of their patrons.

Activities.

Activities under this goal will:

a) assist public libraries in accessing information through electronic networks
b) pay costs for public libraries to acquire or share computer systems and telecommunication technologies
c) target public library and information services to people of:
---diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds

---individuals with disabilities
---people with limited functional literacy or information skills
---persons having difficulty using a public library
---underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line

Activity 1.

To assist public libraries in meeting the informational needs of their citizens by providing grants and other assistance in the area of automation.

South Carolina's legally established county and regional public library systems are eligible for funding and other assistance under this activity. Non-profit and governmental organizations which support/complement the goals of public libraries are also eligible for funding. South Carolina has five (5) public library systems serving seven (7) counties which do not have an online library system. Many other South Carolina public library systems need to upgrade their current automated system. Most public library systems do not have high speed telecommunication lines which would provide Internet connectivity for the library. The South Carolina State Library will provide Library Services and Technology Act funding to address these and other automation needs at the public library level.

Note: At this writing, the South Carolina State Library is working with the Budget and Control Board, Office of Information Resources, to provide high speed telecommunications links to all 187 public library locations. State funding for this project includes the high speed line itself, ongoing costs for the next few years, and Internet service provider charges. This project should be completed by the end of FY 98.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library will give priority to automating the five (5) public library systems which are not automated. Funding will also be available for system upgrades and the purchase of other needed hardware and software to enable all public libraries to participate in state resource sharing projects, such as the database project discussed under Goal 1 above. The South Carolina State Library will continue to provide assistance with public library telecommunication projects. The South Carolina State Library will also provide consultant services to public libraries in this area.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities funded in Year 1 are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities funded in previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities funded in previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Grant recipients are asked to evaluate this project. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet the requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of the Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will contact the five (5) public library systems which are not automated and encourage them to apply for funding to automate their catalogs. The State Library will assist these public library systems in the identification of their automation needs, and make grant funding available to them. The South Carolina State Library will consult with other public library systems in developing automation plans and implementing upgrades. The South Carolina State Library will evaluate telecommunication connectivity and determine if a grant program is needed to establish and/or enhance public library connectivity to the Internet.

Evaluation.

The participants and the South Carolina State Library will evaluate this goal. Success will be determined by whether all 39 county and regional public library systems are automated by the end of the five year period of this plan. System upgrades and telecommunications upgrades will also indicate the success of this project.

Activity 2.

To meet the library and informational needs of all South Carolinians, especially those with special needs.

South Carolina's legally established county and regional public library systems are eligible for funding and other assistance under this activity. Non-profit and governmental organizations which support/complement the goals of public libraries are also be eligible for funding. South Carolina's public libraries provide a wide range of services to the people of South Carolina. Federal funds under the Library Services and Technology Act should target library and information services to---

a) people with diverse geographic, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds
b) individuals with disabilities
c) people with limited functional literacy or information skills
d) persons having difficulty using a library
e) underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line

Note: The South Carolina State Library will apportion grant funding and other programs among the above purposes, as appropriate, to meet the needs of the citizens of South Carolina.

Year 1 (FY98). A grant program specifically designed to meet the library needs of children will be funded. The South Carolina State Library will also coordinate statewide summer reading activities and other promotional activities to encourage children to read and use their public library. Reading promotion activities may be conducted in cooperation with the State Department of Education. The South Carolina State Library operates a library for the blind and physically handicapped in cooperation with the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Federal funding will supplement state funding for this service. Grant funding for other groups mentioned above may be made

available. The South Carolina State Library will encourage efforts to provide countywide public library services by providing grants for the purchase of bookmobiles and other means. The South Carolina State Library will also provide consultant services. The State Library will centralize at the state level, programs and functions which are not able to be handled economically or effectively at the local level.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities funded in Year 1 are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities funded in previous two years are evaluated and continued as appropriate.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities funded in previous three years are evaluated and continued as appropriate.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

Notify libraries eligible for special project grant funding. A committee of children's librarians will select themes for summer reading activities. Coordinate reading promotional efforts with the State Department of Education and other organizations. Evaluate needs of the Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The South Carolina State Library will maintain a listing of libraries needing new bookmobiles. The South Carolina State Library will provide consultant services.

Evaluation.

The participants and the South Carolina State Library will evaluate this activity. Libraries receiving grants will evaluate their effectiveness in meeting the goals established in the grant application. The South Carolina State Library will analyze grant evaluations by category to provide a statewide evaluation. The South Carolina State Library will evaluate the activities of the Department of the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Goal III. To improve library services to all South Carolinians through training of library personnel and to provide for better informed public library trustees and supporters.

Activities.

Activities under this goal will:
stimulate excellence and promote access to resources in all types of libraries by:

a) providing continuing education opportunities for staff employed by South Carolina libraries

b) providing continuing education opportunities for public library trustees and friends

Activity 1.

To provide continuing education opportunities in the area of automation and networking.

Generally, libraries of all types are eligible for services under this activity during the five year period of this plan. Specific training activities, however, may be targeted to certain types of libraries. The South Carolina State Library will identify training needs of South Carolina librarians and patrons. It will also identify ways these training needs might be met. Library Services and Technology Act funds will underwrite the costs of this training. Training opportunities will be identified in the South Carolina State Library's annual Continuing Education Calendar.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library will develop an annual Continuing Education Calendar utilizing evaluations from previous continuing education offerings, input from librarians throughout the state, and staff evaluations of continuing education needs in preparing this calendar. Significant funding under the Library Services and Technology Act will be used to ensure that library staffs are able to use new technologies in providing information to their patrons. Particular attention will be devoted to supporting activities consistent with the successful implementation of Goal I, To provide all South Carolina citizens with access to a wide variety of information. The South Carolina State Library will make available grants for participation in courses, workshops, seminars, and other learning opportunities.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities of Year 1 (FY98) are evaluated. Changing technologies may require different methods of delivering continuing education programs. The South Carolina State Library's Continuing Education Calendar will be revised accordingly.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities funded in previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate. New concerns are addressed.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities funded in previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate. New concerns are addressed.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period of FY2003-2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will coordinate a statewide continuing education program. It will cooperate with the University of South Carolina, College of Library and Information Science and professional organizations in planning, implementing, and/or financing continuing education programs. The South Carolina State Library will develop an annual Continuing Education Calendar listing programs it sponsors. It will also identify and publicize continuing education opportunities offered by other organizations. The South Carolina State

Library may also contract for continuing education training. Training activities which are not sponsored by the South Carolina State Library may be eligible for grant funding.

Evaluation.

Evaluation of continuing education will occur on several levels. Objectively, the evaluation is based on the number of continuing education offerings and the number of attendees. Subjectively, attendees at continuing education events will evaluate the appropriateness of the event in terms of their specific job duties. Library administrators will evaluate how well these events have prepared them and their staff members. Periodically, the South Carolina State Library will survey library administrators to determine current and future continuing education needs. On the basis of the above, the South Carolina State Library will evaluate its continuing education program in an effort to make it responsive to the needs of South Carolina's library community.

Activity 2.

To provide continuing education opportunities in library applications and management.

Generally, libraries of all types are eligible for this activity during the five year period of this plan. Specific training activities, however, may be targeted to certain types of libraries. The South Carolina State Library will identify training needs of South Carolina librarians. It will also identify ways to meet these training needs. Library Services and Technology Act funds will be used to provide this training. The South Carolina State Library's annual Continuing Education Calendar will identify training opportunities.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library will develop an annual Continuing Education Calendar utilizing evaluations from previous continuing education offerings, input from librarians throughout the state, and staff evaluations of continuing education needs in preparing this calendar. Significant funding under the Library Services and Technology Act will be used to ensure that library staffs are adequately trained to meet the information needs of their patrons. Continuing education opportunities will be identified and/or developed for a wide spectrum of library applications and/or management issues. The South Carolina State Library will also make available grants for participation in courses, workshops, seminars, and other learning opportunities.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities of Year 1 (FY98) are evaluated. Issues identified in Year 1 may continue. The South Carolina State Library will identify other issues of current concern and make available continuing education opportunities. The South Carolina State Library's Continuing Education Calendar will be revised accordingly.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities funded in previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate. New concerns are addressed.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities funded in previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate. New concerns are addressed.

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Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will coordinate a statewide continuing education program. It will cooperate with the University of South Carolina, College of Library and Information Science and professional organizations in planning, implementing, and/or financing continuing education programs. The South Carolina State Library will develop annual Continuing Education Calendar listing programs it sponsors. It will also identify and publicize continuing education opportunities offered by other organizations. The South Carolina State Library may also contract for continuing education training. Training activities which are not sponsored by the South Carolina State Library may be eligible for grant funding.

Evaluations.

Evaluation of continuing education will occur on several levels. Objectively, the evaluation is based on the number of continuing education offerings and the number of attendees. Subjectively, attendees at continuing education events will evaluate the appropriateness of the event in terms of their specific job duties. Library administrators will evaluate how well these events have prepared them and their staff members. Periodically, the South Carolina State Library will survey library administrators to determine current and future continuing education needs. On the basis of the above, the South Carolina State Library will evaluate its continuing education program in an effort to make it responsive to the needs of South Carolina's library community.

Activity 3.

To provide continuing education opportunities to meet the needs of public library trustees and friends.

Public library staff, trustees, and friends are eligible for this activity during the five year period of this plan. The South Carolina State Library will identify the specific training needs of library trustees and friends. It will also identify ways these training needs might be met. Library Services and Technology Act funds will provide this training. Training opportunities will be identified in the South Carolina State Library's annual Continuing Education Calendar.

Year 1 (FY98). The South Carolina State Library will develop an annual Continuing Education Calendar utilizing evaluations from previous continuing education offerings targeted for trustees and friends, as well as staff input in preparing this calendar. Funding under the Library Services and Technology Act is used to ensure that public library trustees and friends possess the information to perform their roles in support of public library service in South Carolina. Continuing education opportunities are identified and/or developed for trustees and friends to understand their role in the management and promotion of public library services. The South Carolina State Library will make available grants for participation in workshops, seminars, and other learning opportunities. Note: Trustees and friends are also

eligible to attend other continuing education activities discussed under Activity 1 and Activity 2 above.

Year 2 (FY99). Activities funded in Year 1 (FY98) are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 3 (FY00). Activities funded in previous two years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 4 (FY01). Activities funded in previous three years are evaluated and continued or revised as appropriate.

Year 5 (FY02). Continuation of Year 4 (FY01) activities. Undertake formal evaluation of project to meet requirements of Sec. 224 (c) Evaluation and Report of Library Services and Technology Act. Develop five year plan for period FY2003-FY2007.

Procedures.

The South Carolina State Library will coordinate a statewide continuing education program. It will cooperate with the University of South Carolina, College of Library and Information Science and professional organizations in planning, implementing, and/or financing continuing education programs benefitting staff, trustees, and friends of South Carolina libraries. The South Carolina State Library will develop an annual Continuing Education Calendar listing programs it sponsors. It will also identify and publicize continuing education opportunities offered by other organizations. The South Carolina State Library may also contract for continuing education training. Training activities which are not sponsored by the South Carolina State Library may be eligible for funding.

Evaluation.

Evaluation of continuing education will occur on several levels. Objectively, the evaluation is based on the number of continuing education offerings and the number of attendees. Subjectively, attendees at continuing education events will evaluate the appropriateness of the event in terms of their specific job duties. Library administrators will evaluate how well these events have prepared them, their staff members, trustees, and friends. Periodically, the South Carolina State Library will survey library administrators to determine current and future continuing education needs. On the basis of the above, the South Carolina State Library will evaluate its continuing education program in an effort to make it responsive to the needs of South Carolina's library community.

EVALUATION OF LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT PROGRAM.

Based upon the methodologies developed by the federal/state partnership of the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, the South Carolina State Library will evaluate the overall Library Services and Technology Act program in South Carolina. This evaluation will involve libraries receiving assistance under this legislation, library patrons, library trustees and friends, governmental officials, and other stakeholders. It is anticipated that a variety of measurement tools will be utilized in this

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evaluation, including on-site monitoring activities. Baseline data currently collected by the South Carolina State Library will continue to be collected. The South Carolina State Library will continue to participate in the data collection activities of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Services and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies. Anecdotal evidence will supplement statistical reports.

The State Library will evaluate programs funded with the Library Services and Technology Act against the stated goals and objectives. Numerical data and statistics will be used to measure growth and/or usage against available baseline measurements. South Carolina's libraries will be encouraged to solicit views of stakeholders regarding their library service needs.

Library Services and Technology Act compliance reports will be submitted as required.

ADMINISTRATION OF LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT.

The State Library will comply with the Federal share and maintenance of effort levels described in SEC. 223 of the Library Services and Technology Act and will use not more than 4% of its allotted funds on administrative cost for this program. The Library Services and Technology Act program will be administered, supervised and monitored under this project. Administrative funds will be used to support operating expenses and staff to sufficiently administer the statewide program.